

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Attorney Docket No.: 1416.04US01

REIMINK et al.

Application No.: 09/475,721

Examiner: S. Hon

Filed: December 30, 1999

Group Art Unit: 1772

For: MEDICAL DEVICES WITH POLYMER/INORGANIC SUBSTRATE COMPOSITES

AMENDMENT

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of September 13, 2001, amendment to the above-identified patent application is requested. Replacement claims are presented below, and marked-up claim amendments are presented on separate sheets at the end of this Amendment.

In the Claims

Please cancel claim 4 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please substitute the following amended claims for those currently pending:

1. (Amended) A medical device comprising a composite having an inorganic substrate and a polymer covering at least a portion of the substrate, the polymer forming a structure substantially different from the structure of the substrate and the polymer being rigid.
2. The medical device of claim 1 wherein the inorganic substrate comprises metal.
3. The medical device of claim 1 wherein the inorganic substrate comprises a ceramic.